



## Renton Police Department

# Business Watch News

August 2008

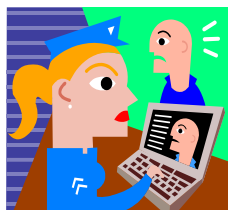
## Police Citizen's Academy Starts September 17



Have you ever been interested in how the Police Department really works? Wonder what officers do during their shift? Come and find out!

The 44th session of the Renton Police Department Citizen's Academy begins September 17, and will meet for 12 weeks on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 pm.

Classes include Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Hostage Negotiations, Homicide Investigations, CSI: Fingerprint Identification, and K-9 displays. There will also be a tour of the Jail and Communications Center, and a ride-along with a patrol officer. Graduates of our Citizen's Academy are periodically invited to Advanced Citizen's Academy classes and other police events.



Curious? Sound interesting? Download an application from the City's website at [www.rentonwa.gov](http://www.rentonwa.gov) or call 425-430-7520 to have an application mailed to you. Class size is limited to 25 students and applications must be received by September 5. Those who live or work in Renton may be given priority. Applicants must be 18 years old to attend, and a background check will be conducted on all applicants.

## Counterfeit Bill Update



Renton businesses reported receiving three counterfeit twenty-dollar bills and two counterfeit fifty-dollar bills during July. Two of the twenty dollar bills had the serial number of GE24493154B. *Both fifty dollar bills appeared to be legitimate and passed the "pen" test, however, the security strip read "Five Dollars" instead of "Fifty."* While counterfeit "pens" can be helpful in detecting counterfeit bills, other security features should also be checked. Information on currency security features can be found at [www.bep.treas.gov](http://www.bep.treas.gov). To request brochures containing information about the security features of \$20 and \$50 bills call 425-430-7520 or email [tvickers@ci.renton.wa.us](mailto:tvickers@ci.renton.wa.us).

If your business encounters a suspected counterfeit bill, please call 9-1-1 immediately.

## CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS

Information Desk	430-6400
Economic Development	430-6575
Fire Prevention	430-7000
Business Watch	430-7520
Block Watch	430-7521
Human Services	430-6650
City Clerk	430-6510
Utility Systems	430-7234
Police Department	430-7500
Code Enforcement	430-7269

## Crimes Occurring on Business Property For the Month of July 2008

**COMMERCIAL ROBBERY:****LOSS**

200 block Rainier Ave N 1:19 a.m.	An employee saw the suspect place unpaid merchandise in his jacket. The employee told the suspect to pay for the items or put them back. The suspect reached into the waistband of his pants and told the employee that he had a gun. Officers were unable to locate the suspect. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: Confronting criminals can be a dangerous business! Call 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity and use caution with people who are behaving suspiciously or committing crimes.</i>	\$24
600 block S Grady Way 5:01 p.m.	A known shoplifter entered the business and was observed by store security. Security watched the subject fill a storage container with high-priced items and conceal it in an aisle. The suspect entered and exited the store a couple of times before grabbing the container and fleeing through a fire door. Security chased and contacted the suspect as the suspect was putting the merchandise in a vehicle. The suspect fled in the vehicle at a high rate of speed, nearly striking the security officer. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: Call 9-1-1 immediately for police response to criminal activity.</i>	\$1,580
3200 block NE Sunset Blvd 8:24 p.m.	The suspect was attempting to shoplift by concealing beer in his pants. An employee confronted the subject, who grabbed her by the shirt and threw her down to the ground, ripping her shirt and apron. The suspect picked the employee back up and pushed her into the back room before fleeing the scene. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: Have you noticed a theme yet? Criminals are often desperate, and may be willing to harm you over something as seemingly insignificant as a package of beef jerky. Your safety is the most important thing; there is no amount of property worth losing life or limb. Police Officers are trained in approaching criminals; call 9-1-1 immediately to report crime and suspicious activity.</i>	\$10

**COMMERCIAL BURGLARY:****LOSS**

1000 block Hoquiam Ave NE	Suspect/s gained entry to the business by breaking a window. Once inside they stole a laptop computer and a microphone before exiting via a door (which was found unlocked the next day by an employee). There is no suspect information. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: An application of Security Film can increase the strength of glass windows and doors up to three hundred percent, greatly increasing the amount of time and effort a criminal must take to gain entry to your business.</i>	\$2,057
200 block SW Sunset Blvd	Officers responded to a business alarm; the business manager and responding officers did not find anything out of the ordinary. The manager later noticed pry marks on the door and called police. The owner confirmed that a cash drawer was missing, but nothing else appeared to have been stolen from the business. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: Installing a deadbolt lock and latch guard will make it more difficult for criminals to gain entry by prying the door lock.</i>	\$15
10600 block SE 174th St	The business manager reported locks removed from storage units. The owner of one of the units reported that his scuba gear was missing from his unit; the manager advised that she had seen scuba gear in another unit that was missing a lock. The victim identified the scuba gear as his, and the owner of the suspect unit was contacted. Two subjects were arrested for Burglary and Possession of Stolen Property. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: Storage units are often targeted by burglars. Maintain a current list of the contents of storage units, including brand and serial number information. Check the storage unit regularly and report suspicious activity to management and to police.</i>	\$2,000 (recovered)

## Crimes Occurring on Business Property For the Month of July (Continued)

200 block SW 19th St	Suspect/s stole a laptop computer, briefcase, and passport from a locked room. Entry was gained by prying the door. Similar incidents have been occurring at like businesses throughout the area. A bulletin with possible suspect information was distributed to similar businesses. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: A latch guard installed over a door lock will increase the amount of time and difficulty required to force entry.</i>	\$2,575
1600 block SW 43rd St	Entry to the business was gained by breaking a window. Once inside suspects stole a 52" LCD flat screen computer monitor/TV and a computer CPU from the conference room adjacent to the front door. The suspects exited through the front door of the business. <i>Crime Prevention Tip: Security Film for windows (see above). If possible, locate high-theft items such as LCD monitors, laptops, and other items of value away from windows and exits, to increase the amount of time needed for a criminal to exit with the property (increasing the likelihood of getting caught!)</i>	\$3,700

*Auto Thefts: There were 61 cars reported stolen in Renton during the month of July 2008.*

*Auto Recoveries: Twenty-five vehicles that were stolen outside the City were recovered in Renton during July 2008.*

### **OTHER CRIMES OF INTEREST OCCURRING ON BUSINESS PROPERTY**

2000 block Maple Valley Hwy	A business employee reported that a known suspect left twenty-one voice mail messages at the business. No specific threats were made, but the messages were derogatory in nature and included profanity.
10700 block SE Carr Rd	Officers responded to a report of a fight in progress. Upon arrival, the business manager pointed out a subject who had been trying to start fights with other customers and was generally being disorderly and causing a disturbance in the business. Officers advised the subject that he was trespassed from the business and assisted in locating transportation for him. The subject refused and walked away. Fifteen minutes later the subject returned to the business and walked in the front door. He was arrested for Criminal Trespass 1st degree.
1800 block Maple Valley Hwy	The suspect called the business and asked what time it closed, then proceeded to ask a series of questions about different circumstances that would cause the business to close. The suspect asked if the business would close if he "shot up the place." Officers attempted to contact the suspect.
12200 block SE Petrovitsky Rd	Officers responded to a trespass complaint. A subject who had been formally trespassed from the business three months prior was back on site. The suspect was booked into jail for Criminal Trespass 2nd degree.

## File a Police Report On-Line

Renton's online reporting system allows you to make certain non-emergency police reports via the internet. Submit the report at your convenience, and print a copy for free! Incident types available for online reporting include abandoned vehicles, harassing phone calls, identity theft, lost property, non-injury hit & run accident, theft (less than \$1,500), and vandalism (less than \$1,500).



All cases filed online will be reviewed. Once the report has been reviewed, a Renton case number and a copy of the report will be emailed to you. Reports that do not meet online reporting criteria will be rejected. Filing a false police report is a crime. For additional information and to make an online report, go to [www.rentonwa.gov](http://www.rentonwa.gov).

## RENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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# Renton Emergency Preparedness Academy



The City of Renton and the American Red Cross have partnered together with Renton Technical College to bring you the **Renton Emergency Preparedness Academy**. A variety of courses are being offered that will help you be more prepared for all kinds of emergencies. Fall quarter classes include Workplace Disaster Preparedness, Apartment Fire Safety (designed for apartment managers and facilities personnel), and Standard First Aid with CPR/AED for Adults. Many classes are free; others have a small fee to cover the cost of supplies.

How to Use a Fire Extinguisher, offered on September 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., may be of interest to your business. The class includes discussions on fire prevention, classifications of fire and rules for fighting a fire. Then there is the fun part—hands on practice using a portable fire extinguisher! There is no fee for this class but space is limited, so register soon. The class is instructed by Renton Fire & Emergency Services personnel.

Registration and additional information on these and other Emergency Preparedness Academy classes is available at [www.rtc.edu/Programs/CommunityEducation](http://www.rtc.edu/Programs/CommunityEducation) or by calling 425-235-7821.